

Claims

I claim:

1 1. A device for drying a moist region of a person's body,
2 comprising:

3 (a) a housing, having at least one air inlet, and an air outlet;

4 (b) an electric fan, mounted within the housing, so as to blow air
5 toward the air outlet;

6 (c) an electric power source connected to the electric fan;

7 (d) an end piece, having a resilient outermost end, protruding
8 around the air outlet; and

9 (e) means for venting air to the atmosphere, bypassing the air outlet
10 if the outermost end of the air outlet is blocked, such that overheating of the fan
11 is avoided;

12 whereby air is adapted to be directed to a moist region of a person's
13 body, to assist the drying of the moist region, with reduced chance of skin
14 irritation of the person.

1 2. The device of claim 1, wherein the power source comprises a
2 battery, adapted to power the fan.

1 3. The device of claim 1, further comprising an air heater mounted
2 within the housing and connected to the power source.

1 4. The device of claim 1, further comprising a lamp mechanically
2 associated with the housing, so as to illuminate a region to which air is
3 directed.

1 5. The device of claim 1, in which the end piece is detachable.

1 6. A forced air drier for drying a baby, comprising:

2 (a) a housing, having at least one air inlet, and an air outlet;

3 (b) an electric fan, mounted within the housing, so as to force air
4 out of the air outlet;

5 (c) an electric power source connected to the electric fan;

6 (d) an air-directing mechanism connected to the forced air blower,
7 having a directed air outlet;

8 (e) an end piece, having a resilient outermost end, protruding
9 around the directed air outlet; and

10 (f) means for venting air to the atmosphere if the outermost end of
11 the air outlet is blocked, such that overheating of the fan is avoided;

12 whereby the air-directing mechanism can be manipulated so as to direct
13 air towards a baby supported nearby.

1 7. The device of claim 6, further comprising an air heater, so as to
2 heat air directed towards the baby.

1 8. The device of claim 6, in which the housing is wall-mounted in
2 proximity to a flat surface for supporting a baby.

1 9. A diaper changing table with built-in baby drier, comprising:
2 (a) a surface for supporting a baby;
3 (b) a forced air blower mechanically associated with the surface,
4 having an air inlet, and an air outlet;
5 (c) an electric power source connected to the forced air blower; and
6 (d) an air outlet vent formed from a resilient material fitted to the
7 air outlet, and mechanically associated with the surface;
8 whereby air is directed towards a baby supported on the surface.

1 10. The diaper changing table of claim 9, in which the forced air
2 blower further comprises an air heater so as to heat air directed towards the
3 baby.

1 11. The device of claim 8, further comprising a plurality of air
2 outlet vents, whereby several moist regions of the baby may be dried
3 simultaneously.

1 12. The device of claim 8, further comprising a foam pad for
2 supporting the baby, through which air is blown.

1 13. A device for drying a moist region of a person's body,
2 comprising:

3 (a) a housing, generally forming a tube, having an air outlet and an
4 air inlet;

5 (b) an electric fan, mounted within the housing between the air inlet
6 and air outlet, operable to draw air in through the air inlet and blow air out of
7 the air outlet;

8 (c) a hand-grip formed on the housing;

9 (d) a battery mounted within the housing, adapted to power the
10 electric fan;

11 (e) an electrical switch, mounted on the housing, so as to control
12 power to the electric fan;

13 (f) a removable end piece, having a resilient outermost end,
14 protruding around the air outlet; and

15 (g) an opening in the housing of the air outlet for venting air to the
16 atmosphere if the outermost end of the air outlet is blocked, such that
17 overheating of the fan is avoided;

18 whereby air is directed to the moist region of the person's body, to
19 assist the drying of the moist region, with reduced chance of skin irritation of
20 the person.

1 14. The device of claim 13, further comprising electrical contacts
2 adapted to allow recharging of the battery.

SHP-02003/03
10827gs

- 1 15. The device of claim 13, further comprising an electrical air
- 2 heater, so as to heat air blown out of the air outlet.

10827gs-SHP-02003